

LAKE QUINSIGAMOND COMMISSION

Wednesday, March 26, 2003 minutes

Shrewsbury, Municipal Town Hall

No February Meeting

Present: Chairperson Chief A. Wayne Sampson; Cpt.Ashe; Tristan Lundgren; Nicholas Pepper; John Wilson; Michael Paika; Melvin Gordon

Absent: Arthur LeDoux; Kenneth Polito

Meeting convened at 7:05 p.m

Approval of minutes-October 2002 and January 29, 2003 unanimous accepted

Treasurer report: No outstanding bills. Need additional five hundred (500) three cent stamps for dock mailings. M.Gordon will purchase, then to be reimbursed. Chairman Sampson-dock stickers have been ordered and delivered (will be paid directly from Shrewsbury Accountant).

Chairman Sampson;

Last month, motion was made to increase dock fees from \$10.00 to \$25.00.

Open for discussion-

Chairman Sampson asked for Ms.Allen to give us an overview / fiscal situations on projects.

Ms. Allen- DEM grant of \$50,000 (\$25,000 for Engineering and \$25,000 for a drawdown). Tighe and Bond Engineering was hired as the consultant to write the bid in order to have a drawdown. Prepared bid specification, notice, legal, and a pre-bid meeting. Five (5) bids were submitted, ranging from \$15,900 to \$119,000. The apparent low bidder made an error and submitted a request to withdraw their bid . Presently, Tighe & Bond are working to complete the bid process with F&D Trucking of Millbury, their bid was \$48,690.00.

DEM advised LQC to spend the monies no later than June 30, they are not sure any monies will be carried into the next fiscal year.

LQC presently has \$17,500 in their account and if the increase in docks takes effect, this would generate another \$10,000 worth of income. It will put us in a position to sign the contract, and the work completed by the June 30th deadline. In the fall, the contractor shall return to install stop logs, and receive final payment. Once these logs are in place, we undertake ownership and will be removed by the towns DPW.

Reminder- in addition to spending money on the drawdown, all commissioners have been in favor of a second weed treatment and to treat a larger area. Suggests to reconsider an increase of a higher amount than \$25.00 per dock. There are no Great Lake & Pond Grant monies and encourages to seek corporate sponsorships which will aid in additional funding. Last year was very successful.

Chairman Sampson- Summary- we need additional \$14,000.00 to initiate the work Ms. Allen just outlined..

Discussion

Follow up treatment for weed control is anticipated for the next 4 to 5 years . Chief Sampson showed concern for the residents who are absorbing additional cost, however, in the past three years, one can see the commitment this commission has made publicly on long term efforts for lake improvements. We are not getting any assistance from the Commonwealth.

Chief Sampson –an amendment to Mr.Gordon’s motion (increase dock fees to \$25.00) that would in future years, commit 100% of this increase to environmental purposes for Lake Quinsigamond .

Cpt.Ashe suggested to insert a notice with dock renewals explaining to the residents the reasons for the increase. Chief Sampson will generate the notice.

Motion to increase residential dock fees from \$10.00 to \$25.00 per year, was seconded and unanimously in favor.

Second motion to increase commercial dock fees from \$50.00 to \$75.00

Followed by discussion-

Approximately 100 commercial plates to date, (each plate allows 2 boats).

Motion was made to increase commercial docks from \$50.00 to \$75.00 per year

N.Pepper seconded, and unanimously accepted. A letter explaining increase to be included with renewals.

Chief Sampson will also change the pre-printed bills

M.Gordon- Request to N.Allen to send out letters to all corporate sponsorships again.

Commissioners Reports:

Cpt.Ashe-Boat to be launched end of April. Expecting departmental layoffs which will affect police coverage on lake. This year, we will be answering complaints on a complaint basis only.

Chairman Sampson- Expecting layoffs also, which will reflect coverage. Chairman Sampson will continue working with Worcester on a coverage plan.

b. Town meeting in May- warrant article for a new boathouse. After a site review, the west side is under water, it not usable for the summer. The police boat is in need of storage with security.

Discussion followed. Joe Igallo -possibility of docking in the regatta cove (after 8:00pm, there is no patrol)

Cpt. Ashe spoke with the Environmental Police who are also experiencing budget cuts.

K.Polito: Absent

M.Gordan.: Received three new request applications for new docks. The sub-committee to review.

M.Paika: Observed migratory water fowl, strong evidence of approaching spring.

b. Take extra caution on the lake, several areas are thawing.

T.Lundgren: Old Merit gas station on Belmont Street near Plantation Street in Worcester is being re-developed. They have done a good job on managing stormwater and has met our order of conditions.

N.Pepper: Several residents are using aerators around their docks- according to our by-laws , there should be no opening greater than 6” dia. Need to enforce next year.

M.Paika suggested residents to ask permission from the board, then issue a release form.

b. Snowmobilers holding a drag strip near Davis Way on the lake. (violation of Rule #16)

To monitor more closely next year

J.Wilson: No Report

A.Ledoux: - Absent

Old Business:

Chairman Sampson: Follow up regarding trailer removal on island. The island is privately owned and trailer is properly registered. The dock is up off the shore.

Chairman Sampson-

- a. Quinsigamond Rowing Association- Pat Collins is the elected representative
Update- Two letters have been sent to QRA as of last November and February, to date received no response. No races will be allowed until permits are issued.

Public inquires-Joyce Brown, of Pt.Rocke Association-plans to support our efforts by joining forces with the LQC. Anticipating, another \$3,000 donation for weed control this year. Requesting that an allowance of great weed application be applied to their shorelines. Chairman Sampson said last year Grafton did not grant permission for that end prior to proceeding . Chief encouraged her to contact Nancy Allen to follow up on that inclusion.

North Lake Avenue Docks-Questions to re-issue or issue dock permits.

Cpt Ashe –Seek legal opinions from the City of Worcester for a ruling and report back to commission

Motion to adjourn 8:12p.m., seconded

Next meeting- April 30th at 7:00pm

Respectfully submitted,
K.Hemmerdinger